SENATE BILL No. 103

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 1-2-10.

Synopsis: English as official language. Encourages Indiana residents to promote the use and mastery of the English language by all Indiana residents. Provides that the state's official language, English, must be used for each public record, each public meeting, and each official act of the state of Indiana, including those governmental documents, records, meetings, actions, or policies that are enforceable with the full weight and authority of the state of Indiana.

Effective: July 1, 2018.

Delph

January 3, 2018, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Policy.

Second Regular Session 120th General Assembly (2018)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type.~~
  Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.
  Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~*this style type*~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2017 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 103

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning general provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1   SECTION 1. IC 1-2-10-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018]: Sec. 1. **(a)** The English language is
3 adopted as the official language of the state of Indiana.
4   **(b) All Hoosiers are encouraged to do the following:**
5   **(1) Promote the use and mastery of the English language by**
6   **all Indiana residents.**
7   **(2) For those who are fluent in a foreign language, to reach**
8   **out in the native languages of Indiana residents who have**
9   **difficulty communicating in English to encourage their use**
10   **and mastery of the English language.**
11   SECTION 2. IC 1-2-10-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
12 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
13 1, 2018]: **Sec. 1.5. (a) Subsections (c) and (d) do not apply to any of**
14 **the following:**
15   **(1) When those subsections are in conflict with federal law.**
16   **(2) When the public safety, health, or justice requires the use**
17   **of other languages.**

1   **(3) To instruction designed to teach the speaking, reading, or**
2   **writing of foreign languages.**
3   **(4) To instruction designed to aid students with limited**
4   **English proficiency in their transition and integration into**
5   **Indiana's education system.**
6   **(5) To the promotion of international commerce, tourism,**
7   **sporting events, or cultural events.**
8   **(b) Subsections (c) and (d) may not be construed in any way to**
9 **deny an individual's rights under the Constitution of the State of**
10 **Indiana, the Constitution of the United States or any law, statute,**
11 **regulation, or rule of the United States or of the state of Indiana**
12 **because of that individual's inability to communicate in the official**
13 **language.**
14   **(c) The official language of Indiana shall be the language used**
15 **for each public record, for each public meeting, and for official acts**
16 **of the state of Indiana, including those governmental documents,**
17 **records, meetings, actions, or policies that are enforceable with the**
18 **full weight and authority of the state of Indiana.**
19   **(d) State agencies and political subdivisions may use or print**
20 **official documents and forms in languages other than the official**
21 **language, at the discretion of their governing authorities.**
22 **Documents filed or recorded with a state agency or with a political**
23 **subdivision must be in the official language of Indiana or, if the**
24 **original document is in a language other than the official language,**
25 **an English translation of the document must be simultaneously**
26 **filed.**